

ORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
July 11, 2003
MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Patricia Craddock, DDS, Chairperson, Nevada Dental Association
Shari Peterson, RDH, M.Ed, University and Community College System of Nevada, Nevada Dental Hygienists' Association, Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners
Mark Rosenberg, DDS, U.S. Public Health Service
Mike Johnson, LADC, BA, MS, Manager, Saint Mary's Outreach Programs
Michelle Kling, RN, Division Director, Washoe County District Health Department (WCDHD)
Michael Sanders, DMD, Director of Patient Care Services, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV), School of Dental Medicine
Tyree Davis, DDS, Clinical Manager, Miles for Smiles
Joseph Patero, Senior Advocate

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Tim Elam, Educare
Patricia Durbin, Deputy Director, Great Basin Primary Care Association (GBPCA)
Maureen Fanning, RN, Public Health Nurse Manager, Clark County Health Department
Pastor Anthony Steele, Bethel AME Church

NEVADA STATE HEALTH DIVISION STAFF PRESENT

Chris Forsch, RDH, BS, Oral Health Consultant, Bureau of Family Health Services (BFHS)
Lori Cofano, RDH, BS, Fluoridation Consultant, BFHS
Dennis Murphy, EdM, Health Education and Information Officer, BFHS
Thara Salamone, MS, Oral Health Biostatistician, BFHS
Tawnya Cook, Administrative Assistant, BFHS

OTHERS PRESENT

Suzanne Burger, Executive Assistant, Nevada Broadcasters Association (NBA)
Jordan Stroum, Financial Manager, NBA
Kathleen Newton, Medicaid Services Specialist, Medicaid

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Patricia Craddock called the Oral Health Advisory Committee (OHAC) meeting to order at **10:05a.m.** at the Nevada Department of Transportation, (NDOT), 310 Galletti Way, Reno, Nevada; NDOT, 123 E. Washington Blvd., Building B, Las Vegas, Nevada; NDOT, 1951 Idaho Street, Elko, Nevada. This was a public meeting and the public was invited to make comments. In accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law, this meeting was posted at the following locations: NDOT, Reno; NDOT, Las Vegas; NDOT, Elko; Elko Nursing Office, Elko; Clark County Health District, Las Vegas; Washoe County District Health Department (WCDHD), Reno; Kinkead Building, Carson City; and Nevada State Library and Archives, Carson City.

Introductions were made around the table in all locations.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING OF MARCH 28, 2003

Dr. Craddock called for comments or corrections to the March 28, 2003 meeting minutes. Dr. Craddock stated her title needed to be changed in some sections of the minutes, and noted on page 5, Goal #8, "...lost by nearly the same percentage it was lost by 35 years ago", should read, "...lost by nearly the same percentage as it was lost 35 years ago." Dr. Tyree Davis noted his position, under Committee

Members Present, needs to be changed to Clinical Manager. Shari Peterson reported she would now also be representing the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners. Dr. Craddock asked for a motion to approve the minutes from March 28, 2003 with changes. Dr. Davis motioned and Ms. Peterson seconded. **MOTION APPROVED.**

REPORT ON STATE DENTAL HEALTH CONSULTANT POSITION

Ms. Forsch reported for the last 2 years, the Nevada State Health Division has had a contract with the University and Community College System of Nevada (UCCSN) for the services of Dr. Robert Cooley as State Dental Health Officer. It was decided this year not to renew the contract. UCCSN has been reimbursed \$65,000 per year for the last 2 years for Dr. Cooley's services. The Oral Health Program is completely grant funded and has been flat funded since inception. The last 2 years and again this year, a grant was received from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for \$319,365. As staff positions have changed, new positions created, and due to the fact the program is doing more, program costs have increased. The area identified to cut costs was that of the State Dental Health Officer position. An announcement has been put out in the Journal of the Nevada Dental Association requesting resumes for the State Dental Health Consultant position. The position would serve as a consultant with a \$10,000 per year compensation. Ms. Forsch noted 3 applications have been submitted. A meeting with Yvonne Sylva on July 21, 2003, could possibly determine who will be chosen for the position. She explained the position's title change.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING STATE DENTAL HEALTH OFFICER REPORT

The Committee discussed the importance of having a full time Dental Health Consultant. Mark Rosenberg questioned whether funds from the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grants have been set aside for oral health. Ms. Forsch noted Dennis Murphy and Laurie Nickles are paid by MCH.

ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM REPORT

Ms. Forsch reported the grant application submitted this year to CDC follows new guidance. Ms. Forsch reviewed the goals with the Committee.

- **Goal #1** is to maintain oral health program leadership capacity. Ms. Forsch reported recruitment is open for the Dental Health Consultant position.
- **Goal #2** is to describe the oral health disease burden health disparities and unmet needs in the state. Thara Salamone is currently preparing a Burden Document. In addition to the Burden Document, the Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics has received the preliminary data from the Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS), which is a telephone survey of adults. It can separate out different segments of the adult population. Also available is the 3rd Grade Screening Survey data. Ms. Forsch would like to do a press release and possibly a press conference releasing the Burden Document and the Screening Survey data. The grant application submitted to CDC, contains a plan to do an oral health screening of preschoolers for early childhood caries. If funds allow, a screening of senior oral health will also be conducted. Ms. Forsch reported the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD) does a state synopsis each year. Data from the synopsis was taken to find the ratio of dentists to population in each state. Nevada ranks 27th in the nation. It was noted SB133 has had a significant impact in Nevada, as the ratio between dentists and women and children in Nevada has increased from .9 to 1.3.
- **Goal #3** is to update a comprehensive five-year State Oral Health Plan. CDC informed states monies are available for one-time supplemental funding. Ms. Forsch requested \$20,000 to convene a statewide dental summit to update the State Oral Health Plan.
- **Goal #4** is to sustain a diverse statewide oral health coalition to assist in formulation of plans,

guide project activities and identify additional financial resources. Ms. Forsch reported the Southern Coalition is holding a workgroup meeting in September 2003 to review their strategic plan and identify specific goals and objectives to pursue. The Elko Coalition is working with various agencies to develop a pediatric program. The Northern Coalition will be holding a strategic planning session in September 2003. Ms. Forsch will be working on bringing all three coalitions together when the State plan is developed. The Nevada State Health Division – Oral Health website, <http://health2k.state.nv.us/ora/>, contains links to various oral health coalitions in Nevada.

- **Goal #5** is to enhance the oral disease surveillance system by continuing to collect, analyze and disseminate data to support program activity.
- **Goal #6** is to identify prevention opportunities for systematic, socio-political and/or policy change to improve oral health by conducting a periodic assessment of policy and systems level strategies with potential to reduce oral disease. Ms. Forsch reported the tentative State Board of Dental Examiners hearing for dental sealants would take place in September or October 2003. In terms of policy changes, the insurance companies are now being required to cover general anesthesia and hospital charges for dental if it is covered for medical.
- **Goal #7** is to develop and coordinate partnerships to increase State level and community capacity to address specific oral disease prevention intervention. Ms. Forsch reported the Culinary Union is considering having all providers participate in the Early Childhood Caries (ECC) training. They are also considering covering fluoride varnish. Ms. Forsch asked Laurie Nickles to compose a letter to all dentists in Nevada inviting them to schedule Prevent Abuse and Neglect Through Dental Awareness (PANDA) courses. The Committee suggested presenting PANDA at other meetings or events to help raise participation in the program. The Oral Cancer courses conducted were very successful. The Oral Health Curriculum was tested by a group of students with good response. Twenty-five CD-ROM curriculums have been purchased and will be pilot tested in three communities. Ms. Forsch reported radio and television spots are currently being aired for the media campaign. Suzanne Berger from the Nevada Broadcaster's Association state a report containing dates, times, and number of announcements which were aired in April and May 2003, will be completed soon. Ms. Forsch reported partnering with Great Basin Primary Care Association (GBPCA) to apply for the Henry Schein Cares Program. If accepted to the program, free dental products worth at least \$10,000, would be shipped 3 to 4 times a year. After receiving products, nonprofit organizations would be contacted letting them know supplies are available to them. Plans have been finalized for the Yerington Clinic. The equipment has been purchased, and a dentist and dental hygienist have been hired. Screenings have begun in Elko and children who need services are being transported. A stakeholder meeting will be held in Elko soon. White Pine County obtained tobacco monies, not all of which have been spent. They are looking to use some of these funds for dental. It is proposed to permanently station the Miles for Smiles van in Elko and rotate it around the nearby rural areas. A grant application was submitted to receive funding for a dental position with GBPCA. Grant applications were also submitted by GBPCA to the American Dental Association (ADA), the Walker River Foundation, and the possibility of submitting another application to the ADA is being explored. Access to Health Care Washoe County is developing a strategic plan. Health Access Washoe County is anticipating 16,000 dental visits this year. Ms. Nickles will attend the Healthy Child Care Nevada training session to become a Health Child Care instructor with a specialty in oral health. WICHE is going to increase the amount of services students must provide to obtain their loan write off. They will also require students to submit the location in which they want to serve.
- **Goal #8** is to coordinate and implement a limited community water fluoridation program. Ms. Forsch commended Lori Cofano for partnering with the Bureau of Health Protection Services. The BHPS Water Engineer has been trained by CDC and is working with local communities, which are fluoridated in Las Vegas. He will be doing inspections as a representative of the State

Health Division. Both Water Authorities in Las Vegas received awards for optimal water fluoridation in 2002. The awards will be presented at the next State Board of Health meeting. Ms. Forsch reported on water systems throughout the state and which communities would be candidates for fluoridation water. Mr. Rosenberg suggested looking at need versus population. An example would be the communities that do not have a dentist. Ms. Cofano noted cost as an issue. Ms. Cofano contacted the State Lab and requested the database, which shows the fluoride levels of all the samples tested. The goal was to identify the naturally occurring levels of fluoride in the community. Data is not recorded by where the sample was taken, but by where the results were sent. Ms. Cofano could not differentiate which samples were from a public water system versus a private well. The two sources have different water requirements.

- **Goal #9** is to evaluate, document and share State program accomplishments, best practices, lessons learned and use of evaluation results. Ms. Forsch reported she was asked to speak at the National Oral Health Conference regarding the Health Smile – Happy Child Program. She was also asked to speak at the National Primary Oral Health Conference, the next Chicago Dental Association meeting and at the American Public Health Association Conference. Ms. Forsch proposed the Oral Health Program begin working on an annual newsletter.
- **Goal #10** is to develop, coordinate and implement limited school-based or school linked dental sealant programs.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM REPORT

- **Goal #1** – No discussion.
- **Goal #2** – There was discussion on Medicaid numbers. Ms. Peterson suggested finding facilities where dentists are practicing to see whether dentists are traveling to rural areas. Ms. Forsch stated she could work with GBPCA to obtain the data. Joseph Patero asked the reason for rank elevation in Nevada. It was noted in 2001, the Legislature passed a statute that allows dentists who have licenses in other states, who meet certain criteria, to practice in Nevada without taking the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners clinical examination. Mike Johnson suggested obtaining Medicaid provider numbers broken out by geographic region. Ms. Forsch reported meeting with Chuck Duarte of the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy recently. Mr. Duarte noted approximately 10 significant Medicaid providers. Ms. Forsch stated Medicaid's goal is to get the top ten most common procedures reimbursed at 65%. Dr. Rosenberg asked who sees Medicaid children at the university of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV), School of Dental Medicine. Dr. Sanders reported the faculty currently sees children covered by Medicaid.
- **Goal #3** – No discussion.
- **Goal #4** – No discussion.
- **Goal #5** – No discussion.
- **Goal #6** – Ms. Peterson reported attending the American Association of Dental Examiners meeting in Chicago. Many states are proposing hygienists do restorative work.
- **Goal #7** – Mr. Johnson questioned what data is reported to CDC to justify the benefit of the media campaign. In terms of measurements, Ms. Forsch will submit NBA's report to CDC. For future reporting, she is considering posting data on the website to track the number of hits received.
- **Goal #8** – Dr. Rosenberg suggested investing in a fluoride meter for the Oral Health Program to travel to communities and test the water. Ms. Forsch is looking into paying for each public water system to take a sample and submit it to State Lab for tracking. Ms. Cofano reported contacting the United States Geological Survey for information, which was not available through the State Lab. Ms. Forsch would like to develop a map of Nevada showing fluoride levels throughout the state.
- **Goal #9** – No discussion.

- **Goal #10** – No discussion.

ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM BISTATISTICIAN REPORT

Ms. Salamone reviewed various results of the 3rd Grade Screening Report to the Committee. She asked the Committee to give any data suggestions they may have before printing of the finalized report. Ms. Salamone interpreted the racial breakdown. She asked for suggestions on where to screen preschoolers and reported working with the ASTDD for ideas.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING BIOSTATISTICAN REPORT

Dr. Craddock suggested more specific information targeted towards the Asian population in an effort to get more involvement from that community. Mr. Johnson discussed the benefits of possibly looking more into dental access among races. Dr. Rosenberg asked if other states have a model for preschool screenings. Ms. Forsch stated Illinois limited their screening to Head Start facilities. Ms. Peterson suggested conducting surveys at Parks and Recreation Departments. Dr. Craddock suggested random sampling at McDonald's facilities. Mr. Johnson reported the McDonald's Corporation purchased a van for St. Mary's to travel throughout northern Nevada to conduct services at various McDonald's. He noted there are 33 McDonald's in northern Nevada alone.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VACANCIES ON THE ORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The newest member to the Oral Health Advisory Committee, Joseph Patero, introduced himself and gave a brief background. Mr. Patero has filled the senior advocate vacancy on the Committee. Ms. Forsch reported on vacancy remaining on the Committee and would like it to be filled by a member of the Hispanic Community. She asked the Committee to make recommendations or suggestions for filling this vacancy.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING ESTABLISHING BYLAWS FOR THE ORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ms. Forsch noted distributing the bylaws to the Committee prior to the last meeting. As Mr. Patero has not had a chance to review the bylaws, Dr. Craddock suggested voting on this item at the next meeting. Ms. Forsch discussed the purpose and importance of having bylaws. Ms. Kling questioned whether the membership should be defined within the document. Dr. Sanders expressed concern with the shortness in length of term limits. It was suggested to check with Deputy Attorney General as to whether the membership needs to be defined.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND DISCUSSION

Kathleen Newton expressed concerns with the audiovisual equipment used for the meetings. She stated many times it has been difficult to hear the other end of the videoconference. Ms. Forsch suggested using the Legislative building for future meetings.

COMMITTEE CALENDAR – DETERMINE DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting was tentatively set for Las Vegas at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 30, 2003. The location will be announced.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at **12:45 p.m.**